

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF  
INLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR  
SUSPENSION OF NUMBER PORTABILITY  
REQUIREMENTS.**

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**CASE NO. INL-T-04-1**

**ORDER NO. 29474**

Section 251(b) of the federal Telecommunications Act requires all local exchange carriers to provide number portability to the extent technically feasible and according to the requirements prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission. In an order issued November 10, 2003, the FCC requires that incumbent LECs in areas outside the largest 100 metropolitan areas implement number portability no later than May 24, 2004. Section 251(f)(2), however, allows local exchange carriers with fewer than 2% of the nations subscriber lines to petition a state commission for suspension or modification of the requirements of Section 251(b).

On February 11, 2004, a Petition was filed by Inland Telephone Company requesting suspension until December 31, 2005, of the requirement that it provide number portability from wireline to wireless carriers. The Petition states that Inland will need to upgrade its switch at a cost of approximately \$400,000 in order to provide local number portability. Inland states suspending its number portability obligation will not adversely affect customers because it has not received a single number porting request and does not anticipate a significant demand in the foreseeable future.

On February 24, 2004, the Commission issued a Notice of Petition and Notice of Modified Procedure inviting written comments on Inland's Petition. Written comments were filed only by the Commission Staff, which supported Inland's request for an extension.

Section 251(f)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 provides small carriers the opportunity to petition a state commission for suspension of local number portability requirements. According to Inland's Petition, it is technically infeasible for Inland's Mitel switches to provide number portability without upgrading its switch. Inland has already been granted an extension by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to allow the company time to replace its Mitel switches in Roslyn, Dewatto, Prescott, and Uniontown and requests a similar extension in Idaho to replace its Mitel switches in Leon and Lenore.


Granting an extension for Inland in Idaho is in the public interest and would allow Inland to avoid adverse economic impact by coordinating a switch replacement schedule. The Commission finds that Inland is making a reasonable effort to comply with the LNP requirements by upgrading its central office switches and that Inland's Petition provides an adequate reason to suspend its obligations to comply with the FCC's number portability requirements until December 31, 2005.

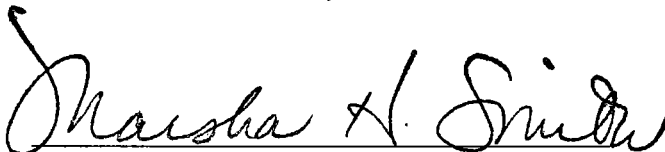
### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Inland Telephone Company's Petition for temporary suspension of local number portability obligations until December 31, 2005 is approved.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See *Idaho Code* § 61-626.

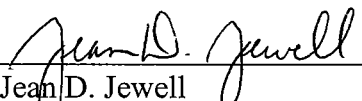
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2004.

  
PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

  
MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

  
DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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